Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

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CODEL WILSON

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (WILSON, CHARLES)

SUBJ: CODEL WILSON

SUMMARY: CODEL WILSON VISIT HIGHLIGHTED BY LENGTHY MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER AND ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION BY PUBLIC AND PRIVATE OFFICIALS INCLUDING PRESIDENT, ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER AND LEADERS OF DEMOCRATIC PARTIES. PORTUGUESE EAGER FOR MORE CODELS. END SUMMARY.

- 1. CODEL WILSON COMPLETED SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO PORTUGAL FROM JAN 2 TO JAN 4 HIGHLIGHTED BY ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE ON PART OF PORTUGUESE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS. FOLLOWING SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS TOOK PLACE:
- ---HOUR-AND -HALF MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES AT SAO BENTO PLACE (SEPTEL).
- ---HALF-HOUR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES AT BELEM PALACE.
- ---EVENING RECEPTION AT RESIDENCE IN HONOR OF CODEL WITH PARTY LEADERS, GOVT OFFICIALS, MEDIA, AND PRIVATE CITIZENS.
 ---ONE-HOUR MEETING AT FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER, SEC OF STATE JORGE CAMPINOS (SOARES OUT OF TOWN) AND DEP DIR GENERALS SACADURA CABRAL AND VILA BOAS.
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--- MEETING WITH CDS PARTY LEADERS, INCLUDING SEC GEN ADELINO

AMARO DA COSTA AND LUIS MORENO AT CDS HEADQUARTERS.

- ---LUNCH WITH SOCIALIST PARTY LEADERS INCLUDING MINISTER OF JUSTICE ZENHA, TITO DE MORAIS, MANUEL SERRA, JOSE NEVES, BERNARDINO DO CARMO GOMES, MARCELO CURTO, AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR JUSTICE ARMANDO BACELAR.
- ---MEETING WITH PPD PARTY LEADERS INCLUDING SEC GEN SA CARNEIRO, FRANCISCO BALSEMAO, RUI MACHETE, AND ANTONIO GOUVEIA.
- ---COUNTRY TEAM BRIEFING AT EMBASSY.
- ---MEETING WITH DIRECTORS OF CONFEDERATION OF PORTUGUESE INDUSTRY WHICH REPRESENTS 47,000 PORTUGUESE COMPANIES.
- ---BREAKFAST WITH AMBASSADOR, DCM AND POLCOUNS.
- ---VISIT TO MAAG BY ASST SECY MAURY, SEYMOUR AND SMITH.
- ---VISIT TO APO BY REP CLAY.
- ---REP ESCH ALSO MET SEPARATELY WITH NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD.
- 2. COMMENT: PORTUGUESE WERE CLEARLY DELIGHTED BY VISIT AS CAN READILY BE SEEN BY HIGH-LEVEL TURNOUT FOR CODEL. CODEL WAS EFFECTIVE IN GETTING ACROSS IDEA THAT US CONGRESS SOLIDLY BACKED PORTUGUESE MOVE TOWARDS DEMOCRACY, THAT US PRESS WAS NOT REPEAT NOT GIVING UNFAVORABLE VIEW OF PORTUGUESE SITUATION (PORTUGUESE RAISED THIS ISSUE IN PRACTICALLY ALL MEETINGS) AND THAT US DID NOT HAVE DESIGNS ON FORMER PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES IN AFRICA.
- 3. PORTUGUESE FOR THEIR PART EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR RECENTLY VOTED US AID AUTHORIZATION, NOTING THAT WHILE MODEST IN SIZE, SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE WAS STRONG BOOST TO DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN PORTUGAL.
- 4. BASED ON SUCCESS THIS VISIT AND REPEATED PORTUGUESE REQUESTS FOR MORE OF SAME, EMBASSY HOPES DEPARTMENT WILL ENCOURAGE FUTURE CODELS TO VISIT PORTUGAL. SCOTT

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To: ATHENS

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